Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino Date: 02-25-06 Release No. 06-020

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

A preliminary investigation pertaining to an officer involved shooting reveals the following: On February 25, 2006, at approximately 5:50pm, San Antonio Police Officer Juan Herrera, a 1 1/2 year veteran, was on a short break inside the Valero Convenience store, located at 1129 Fresno. While inside, Officer Herrera was approached by a male, who requested Officer Herrera's assistance with a disturbance he was having with his adult son in the store's parking lot. Officer Herrera stepped outside the entrance doors and contacted the below suspect. The suspect began to yell and scream at Officer Herrera and would not allow Officer Herrera to speak to him. The suspect was walking in circles while at the same time yelling at Officer Herrera. After approximately one minute of the erratic behavior, the suspect reached into his pant area and pulled out a knife. Officer Herrera saw the knife and immediately drew his service weapon and ordered the suspect to drop the weapon. Instead, the suspect yelled for the officer to shot him and then began to lunge towards Officer Herrera. Officer Herrera began to create distance by backing away from the suspect, but the suspect continued to advance towards the officer. Officer Herrera backed approximately 15-20 feet before he found himself between his patrol car and the Valero building. At that point, Officer Herrera reports that he feared for his life and fired three shots towards the suspect. The suspect was subsequently hit by the gunfire and died at the scene. Officer Herrera was not injured. The store's surveillance tape captured most of the shooting and confirmed the facts as given by Officer Herrera. The suspect's knife has been recovered and will be processed as evidence.

The San Antonio Police Department's shooting Team is handling the investigation and will submit their findings to Police Chief Albert A. Ortiz and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. As per policy, Officer Herrera will be placed on administrative duty while the investigation continues.

SUSPECT: Pais, Michael Joseph L/M 05-17-75, 5939 Lake Nacoma, SA Tx